



**LAC  
DMH**  
LOS ANGELES COUNTY  
DEPARTMENT OF  
MENTAL HEALTH

LOS ANGELES COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH  
550 S. VERMONT AVE., LOS ANGELES, CA 90020 HTTP://DMH.LACOUNTY.GOV



MARVIN J. SOUTHARD, D.S.W.  
Director  
ROBIN KAY, Ph.D.  
Chief Deputy Director  
RODERICK SHANER, M.D.  
Medical Director

September 3, 2013

TO: Each Supervisor

FROM: Marvin J. Southard, D.S.W.  
Director

SUBJECT: **REQUEST TO INCREASE DELEGATED AUTHORITY PERCENTAGE  
IN THE BOARD LETTER TO AMEND LEGAL ENTITY AGREEMENTS  
WITH DIDI HIRSCH PSYCHIATRIC SERVICE AND SPECIAL SERVICE  
FOR GROUPS**

This memorandum is to comply with Board Policy Manual, Section 5.120, Authority to Approve Increases to Board-Approved Contract Amounts. The Policy mandates that any department requesting a percentage increase exceeding 10 percent of the total contract amount must provide a detailed justification and advance written notice to your Board, with a copy to the Chief Executive Officer, at least two weeks prior to the Board Meeting at which the proposed contract is to be presented.

With the addition of new funding streams, programs, and services, the Department of Mental Health (DMH) requests an additional 10 percent for a total of 20 percent delegated authority to increase the Maximum Contract Amounts of the Legal Entity Agreements with Didi Hirsch Psychiatric Service and Special Service for Groups (SSG), which are being amended via sole source in coordination with the Third Supervisorial District to implement pilot projects, Project 60 Women and Children and the SSG Alliance Integrated Care Mobile Team, respectively, to focus on distinct needs of the chronically homeless population of the San Fernando Valley.

This authority will allow DMH greater capacity to amend contracts to implement these new funding streams, programs, and services in a more expeditious manner. It will also allow DMH and its contract agencies to maintain business continuity in the provision of current mental health services to severely and persistently mentally ill adults, seriously emotionally disturbed children, adolescents, and their families throughout the County of Los Angeles. In most instances where speed and response time are of key importance, the increased delegated authority will allow DMH and its network of contract agencies to maximize, prioritize, and increase access to services on a continuous and ever-increasing basis to its ever-growing clientele, which more effectively meets the County's mission "To Enrich Lives Through Effective And Caring Service."

Each Supervisor  
September 3, 2013  
Page 2

Should there be a need to exceed the 20 percent delegated authority, DMH will return to your Board with a request for authority to amend the contracts accordingly.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact me, or your staff may contact Richard Kushi, Chief, Contracts Development and Administration Division, at (213) 738-4684.

MJS:RK:MM:RK:jk

c:     Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors  
          Chief Executive Officer  
          County Counsel  
          Robin Kay, Ph.D.  
          Margo Morales  
          Deputy Directors  
          District Chiefs  
          Kimberly Nall  
          Richard Kushi